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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 1, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 9 totaled 17.1 billion ton-miles, up 3.4 percent from the 16.5 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987.

Carloadings originated in the week ended January 9 totaled 375,646, up 2.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 24.9 percent higher than the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 0.4 percent in the East and 4.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 10 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Metallic ores increased by 7,451 cars (135.8 percent), grain showed a gain of 3,704 cars (15.0 percent), and nonmetallic minerals increased by 2,621 cars (29.0 percent). Coke loadings were up by 1,920 cars (47.6 percent). All of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback freight traffic during the holiday week ended January 2 totaled 72,458 trailers and/or containers, up 8.9 percent from the previous holiday week, and 8.8 percent above the comparable week of 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/09/88: -

	Loadings in Week ended January 9, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,435	I	3,704	15.0	I	3,469	13.9
Other farm products	4,715	D	361	7.1	I	467	11.0
Metallic ores	12,936	I	7,451	135.8	I	960	8.0
Coal	107,774	D	1,404	1.3	I	24,279	29.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,777	D	2,760	23.9	I	1,021	13.2
Nonmetallic minerals	11,644	I	2,621	29.0	I	4,297	58.5
Grain mill products	11,419	I	181	1.6	I	1,949	20.6
Food and kindred products	10,742	I	71	0.7	I	2,774	34.8
Primary forest products	9,523	D	1,955	17.0	I	2,201	30.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,895	D	353	4.9	I	1,207	21.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,024	D	39	0.3	I	632	5.1
Chemicals and allied products	27,405	I	481	1.8	I	3,458	14.4
Petroleum products	5,070	I	112	2.3	I	1,018	25.1
Stone, clay and glass products	8,061	D	866	9.7	I	914	12.8
Coke	5,953	I	1,920	47.6	I	467	8.5
Metals and products	10,161	I	1,854	22.3	I	771	8.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,373	D	1,073	6.5	I	8,599	126.9
Waste and scrap materials	7,588	D	433	5.4	I	2,526	49.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	1,841	D	385	17.3	I	301	19.5
All other carloads	68,310	I	160	0.2	I	13,492	24.6
Total Cars Loaded	375,646	I	8,926	2.4	I	74,802	24.9
Corresponding week of 1987	366,720						

	1988	1987	% Change
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 9	17.1	16.5	I 3.4

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